REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit, contemporaneously herewith, a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Claims 20-24 are pending. Claims 1-19 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of Claims 15-19. In order to expedite prosecution, Claims 1-14 have been cancelled.

New Claims

New claims 20-24 have been added. New claim 20 includes all of the limitations of cancelled Claims 1 and 15. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 20 is allowable over the prior art for at the reasons that dependent Claim 15 was indicated to be allowable.

Specifically, none of the prior art references disclose or suggest an apparatus for the fixing of the position of bone cuts for the insertion of knee implants, the apparatus including a base element adapted to be fixed to a bone in the region of a condyle; and at least one cutting jig adapted to be coupled to the base element, the cutting jig including a first slot for guiding a cutting tool, the first slot defining a first cutting plane with respect to the base element, the first slot configured to receive a cutting tool while the cutting jig remains coupled to the base element; a U-shaped base part having a pair of U limbs, wherein, when the cutting jig is coupled to the base element, the pair of U limbs are parallel to the first cutting plane and at least a portion of the base element is received between the pair of U limbs; a clamping lever pivotably supported at the U-shaped base part about an axis extending parallel to the first cutting plane and perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the U limbs; a clamping spindle extending parallel to the U limbs of the U-shaped base part and cooperating with the clamping lever via a thread; and a turntable arrangement rotatably supported by one of the pair of U limbs, the turntable arrangement rotatable about an axis extending perpendicular to the first cutting plane, the turntable arrangement defining a second slot for guiding a cutting tool, the second slot configured to receive a cutting tool while the cutting jig remains coupled to the base element and while taking the respective knee anatomy

into account, wherein the rotational position of the second slot relative to the first slot is fixed by rotational actuation of the clamping spindle and the clamping lever is simultaneously pivotable relative to the U-shaped base part to clampingly engage the base element, as called for in new independent Claim 20.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of new independent Claim 20, as well as Claims 21-24 which depend therefrom.

Conclusion

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 02-0385, Baker & Daniels.

Should the Examiner have any further questions regarding any of the foregoing, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at 260-424-8000.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew B. Skaggs
Registration No. 55,814

Attorney for Applicants

MBS/nw

BAKER & DANIELS LLP
111 East Wayne Street, Suite 800
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Telephone: 260-424-8000
Facsimile: 260-460-1700

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below:

MATTHEW B. SKAGGS, REG. NO. 55,814
Name of Registered Representative

Signature

December 30, 2008
Date